

Crewkerne

WEEKENDER



Part of Tindle Newspapers Ltd

Issue 171

January 3rd 2014



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Oscars take
pram race prize

See page 4

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ON SUNDAY
JANUARY
12TH 2014

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IN AID OF ACTION
FOUNDS

DAVID LAWS MP for Yeovil
Constituency Advice Centres

Friday 10th January
Appointments at the Constituency Office, 5 Church Street,
YEOVIL BA20 1HB From 10am

Appointments at the Forefront Community Centre, 42 Fore
St, CHARD TA20 1QA From 5pm

Saturday 11th January
3D Sensory Centre, Wharf Lane, ILMINSTER TA19 0BA
From 9am-10am

Crewkerne Community Office, Town Hall, Market Square,
CREWKERNE TA18 7LN From 11am-12pm

Friday 17th January
Appointments at the Constituency Office, 5 Church Street,
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Friday 24th January
Appointments at the Constituency Office, 5 Church Street,
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Please contact the office (01935 423284) for assistance or to book an appointment
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AFTER 30 years on the Isle of Wight, Paula Moon and husband Dick moved to Chard 19 months ago and have become very involved in the local community. When they thought about retirement they realised they wanted to be on the mainland where there were more things to do.

Paula, a former chief petty officer in the Women's Royal Naval Service, was elected as chairman of the Chard branch of the Royal Naval Association and is now working part time as an administrator for the peer support group Working All Together in Chard (WATCH) which offers a community space for anyone feeling isolated for any reason, allowing people to make new friends and learn new skills.



60 seconds

WHAT brought you to Chard?

We had been looking at Dorset because of our son and then decided to search a little further. We found a lovely bungalow that was just right and only five minutes from the doctor, dentist and chemist and 10 minutes from the major supermarkets. My husband doesn't drive and we thought we would be alright into our dotage.

HOW did you come to work for WATCH?

In the WRNS at 17 I worked in admin. When I came out I worked for Hampshire Constabulary for 15 years and then a housing association. When we moved here I got a job with Devon County Council and had just been offered a full-time position when the agency told me about WATCH and working in Chard was a bonus.

WHAT do you enjoy about being at WATCH?

I have never had a job like it, it's manic and yet relaxing because you can't help having a chuckle at the things that happen. The family atmosphere is lovely, it's one of the best jobs I've ever had. It's lovely to think it will be my last, I can go out on a high!

WHAT do you think the members get out of the group?

It is an extended family social circle but the ethos is that they run the project, gaining them self-esteem and new skills and advice. Members can become volunteers and take on more responsibility which could lead them in to work.

WHY did you join the WRNS?

I was 17 and still quite inexperienced, I chose the WRNS because my father and twin brothers were in the navy and my other brother was in the Merchant Navy so I knew I would get good training. The comradeship was great, taught me great morals and respect and it was a fantastic stepping stone.

IF you could meet anyone, who would you choose?

My mother, I never had chance to know her having been brought back from Southern Rhodesia when I was two and a half. I wrote when I was in the WRNS but she died before we got to meet.

WHAT do you like about living in Chard?

It's very friendly, certainly in the time we have lived here, we have found several circles of friends. It is close to the boundaries of the other counties and has lovely local walks like the reservoir. It is sad to see shops closed though, I would like to have somewhere in town where I could buy an outfit for going out in.

HOW do you spend your free time?

I like to enjoy my life with my family, since coming to Chard I joined the RNA group and my husband joined the camera club, we like being involved in the community.

WHAT would you like on your deserted island?

I would like to have family photos and recordings of all their voices so I could listen and remember them, photographs are nice but they can't say 'I love you'. I would also like a hairbrush because I don't like going anywhere with my hair in a mess.

DO you have any unfulfilled ambitions?

Not really, I am really happy with everything I have done in my life and I have a good family circle, I still have ties with the service and I have a lovely husband and children and now a grandson, I feel fulfilled.

WHERE would you like to visit?

There are so many places in the UK we still want to explore but I would like to see more of Scotland. The one place abroad I would like to go to would be Canada, the Rockies and the old cruise and train journey to Alaska and Whale watching.

IF you won a silly amount of money what would you do?

I would see my children set, like many young people they are finding the property ladder hard. I would like enough behind us to have a good social life with weekends away but I would love to buy a property in Chard to have as a base for the RNA and incorporate WATCH to go on and expand and open it up to the community.

weekenderannouncements

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XXX

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Crewkerne

Chard

Ilminster

Schools

People

New Year present for police and youth clubs

SOUTH Somerset police and organisers of youth clubs in Crewkerne, Chard and Ilminster celebrated an early Christmas present that should make for a happy New Year when they were awarded grants totalling £3,500.

The money came from Somerset Crimebeat, a charitable trust supported by Avon and Somerset Police, local authority Youth and Community Services and the Probation Service.

The application for cash was made by Crewkerne neighbourhood sergeant Richard Barnett

and colleagues from Active Learning and Skills, the not-for-profit organisation that runs the district's youth centres.

Sergeant Barnett said: "It's a great result for us and will allow us to do much more in 2014 to really engage with young people and help them make their community a better place to be.

"Any youth project can apply for cash funding and I'd encourage more to do so. The money is there – all you have to do is to present your case.

"Anyone who wants to apply should contact

their local beat team for advice and we can support your application in partnership to the sheriff of Somerset's office."

He urged more youth organisations to take advantage of opportunities and grants available from Somerset Crimebeat.

The scheme was launched back in 1998 with the aim to give young people up to the age of 25 an opportunity to help combat crime and the causes of crime in the community. It is led by the High Sheriff of Somerset and successive

High Sheriffs have also pledged their support providing valuable continuity throughout the years.

Grants are available to groups who want to be part of the solution rather than the problem. Crimebeat ensures that such groups are responsibly led and that the projects are suitably supervised and coordinated.

For more information go to www.somerset-crimebeat.org/

Traditional hunt continues



HEADING OUT: The Seavington Hunt riding through Market Street Crewkerne

NINE years after the ban on fox hunting in England and Wales, the Seavington hunt rode out from the Market Square in Crewkerne on Boxing Day in the age-old tradition.

Despite the wet ground, the day was bright and mild and there was a good showing of riders, although less children at the meet this year.

Since the ban, the hounds are given a scent trail to follow in order that the events continue, but the Countryside Al-

liance and other hunt supporters are still calling for a repeal of the Hunting Act to cull foxes. They stated that hunts across England and Wales welcomed more than quarter of a million people, on foot and on horseback, to their Boxing Day meets, claiming support for hunting was as strong as ever.

Anti-hunt protestors maintain that the hunting of foxes by hounds should never be allowed to return, as they say it is a cruel way to cull the animals.

Eileen switches on Christmas lights for 100th birthday

SOUTH Petherton resident, Eileen Rountree, celebrated her 100th birthday on Friday, December 20th and the village gave her the honour of switching on the Christmas lights to celebrate.

Eileen's family took her out to her favourite coffee shop on the Thursday and had a party for her at Burnworthy House, where she lives, on the Friday.

She was very impressed with her cards from the Queen, the Secretary of State and one from the Houses of Commons.

In her younger days Eileen played football for Yeovil Town Ladies.



MP welcomes cash for Somerset schools

DAVID Laws, MP for Yeovil Constituency and Schools Minister, welcomed the news that Somerset will receive £1,071,083 in 2014-15 to help schools in the county build kitchens and £12,059,760 over the next three years to help fund extra school places.

The £1,071,083 is designed to help schools provide all infant school children with a free school meal, a policy which was announced by the Deputy Prime Minister at the Liberal Democrat Party Conference earlier this year.

The money will allow schools to improve upon existing kitchen facilities, or build new kitchens where they are needed, and will come from the £150million the government set aside to help schools build the facilities required to give every infant school pupil a free school meal.

The £12,059,760 will help the local authority fund extra school places

where they are needed over the next three years. In 2014-15 Somerset will receive £3,201,650. This will rise to £4,321,029 in 2015-16 and £4,537,081 in 2016-17.

Mr Laws said: "This extra money will help schools in Somerset build kitchens and allow the local authority to fund extra school places where they are most needed.

"We are beginning to get real pressures on school places and this money should help the County Council to provide new school places.

"I am proud we have legislated so that every infant school pupil will receive a free school meal, but we recognised that some schools would not have the facilities to make this a reality. The government set aside capital to help schools build new kitchens or improve existing ones, and I am delighted that Somerset schools will benefit from this in the coming year."

Busy night for fire service

DEVON and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service crews were called to 250 weather-related incidents over night of December 23rd to 24th, including flooding of properties and rescues of motorists from floodwater. Part of the A303 had to be closed when the River Yeo burst its banks and trees and limbs came down in many country lanes.

As the weather continues to be changeable, the service has repeated calls for motorists to heed warnings not to drive through floodwater, as it could put themselves and others at risk.

Area Manager Phil Martin said: "It is impossible for motorists to tell how deep water is or the condition of the ground

beneath. There is a significant risk to life if motorists become stranded.

"If they do see floodwater on the road, they should not attempt to drive through it but should try to find an alternative route. If a road has been closed, it is for the safety of the public and closure signs should be respected."

Motorists should also be aware of the possibility of tree branches and other debris on the roads due to recent high winds.

Attending incidents, which could be prevented, may also divert fire crews from other incidents where lives are at risk.

Fire crews from Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service will continue to attend incidents where lives are at risk during adverse weather conditions.

For the latest up-to-date forecasts, go to www.metoffice.gov.uk

For flood warnings and advice on how to prepare for flooding, go to www.environment-agency.co.uk

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Big crowds for Boxing Day pram race

HUNDREDS of people lined the streets of Crewkerne on a sunny Boxing Day morning to witness the annual 15 minutes of madness, known as the pram race, which has happened for over 50 years.

Crazy people in crazy clothes raced from the bollards in Market Square to the end of Market Street and back, twice, in their pimped up 'prams'.

The rules have become rather loose in recent years as ultimately

by Marion Draper

it is a great spectacle and bit of fun, unofficially run by the Rotary Club of Crewkerne District which made a charity collection among the crowd and made sure the entrants were lined up and left the road as soon as the race was over.

The race was started by the mayor, Councillor Robin Pailthorpe, and the Oscars Wine Bar team – Feel the Force Inside

You – crossed the line first, with Bad Habits in a close second with their trolley the 'Silver Cross'.

The first ladies were from the Crewkerne Running Club who made it back in one piece despite a slight 'pile up' at the Church Street junction.

Good fun was had by all and, with two junior teams and more local businesses entering in 2013, it looks like the event is set to continue for the years to come.



■ **FIRST LADIES:** Crewkerne Running Club members Tracy Symes, Kay Pulsford and Tamsin Dickenson



■ **CROSSING THE LINE:** 1st Crewkerne Scouts



■ **ON YOUR MARKS:** The Mayor of Crewkerne, Councillor Robin Pailthorpe, starts the Boxing Day pram race



■ **CLOSE RUN THING:** Feel the Force Inside You and Bad Habits in the Silver Cross



■ **RARING TO GO:** No 7 the Café as Foxtrot, PI & Adam Loader, Steve Coate & Caroline Duval

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Festive evening at Maiden Beech



CHRISTMAS COUNTING: Humorous poetry by the year fives



SOMEWHERE ONLY WE KNOW: Millie Ricketts, Adeline Cooper and Laura Evans



DECK THE HALLS: Trumpet duo Alicia Guppy and Ella Charles



ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS: Year eights rock the stage

THE SCHOOL hall at Maiden Beech Academy in Crewkerne was packed with smiling family members as the youngsters reeled out their programme of festive entertainment on December 18th.

The talented students showcased the various musical and performance skills they had learned throughout the year, under the di-

rection of their enthusiastic teacher **by Marion Draper**

Barbara Dale.

The school orchestra and choir performed along with solos, duets and more, with some extremely good voices and future musicians apparent on stage.

During the interval there was a raffle to raise money for a new

archery club being started at the school.

The refreshments raised money for Oxfam Unwrapped which provides livestock, compost toilets and wells for developing countries in need.

The students had obviously worked very hard on the festive evening and there was a great atmosphere.

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Packed church for Christingle service



■ **CHRISTINGLES:** Evelyn and Caiden Gay. Below, Sienna Trusson and Grace Brown and, below right, George, Thomas and Lottie Hallett

THE Church of St Bartholomew in Crewkerne had standing room only for the annual Christingle service on Christmas Eve, led by the Reverend Michael Gallagher.

The final candle on the Advent crown was lit and reader Nick Clarke explained the symbolism of the Christingle gift, which he said was held in the hand as a picture of love, remembering those who had little to hold in their hands.

After the children had collected their oranges - representing the world, wrapped in a red ribbon for the blood of Christ, decorated with four cocktails sticks with sweets for the four directions and the fruits of the earth and bearing a candle for the light of the world - church wardens and readers lit tapers from the Advent candle.

They lit the first Christingle in each pew, which in turn passed the light along the row. When all were lit, the lights of the church were dimmed and the children sang "Away in a Manger".

There was a retiring collection for the Children's Society and spare Christingles for families to take home to loved ones.



Retired residents tuck into festive fayre at Henhayes



■ **THANKS** to a generous donation by Waitrose supermarket and the volunteer efforts of the trustees at Henhayes Community Centre in Crewkerne, many retired residents of the town were given a free festive meal. The guests of the centre were treated to a traditional Christmas lunch plus entertainment and a gift to bring some Christmas cheer to those who may have otherwise been on their own. Transport was also provided. Chairman of trustees, Rosemary Prince, said they were very grateful to Waitrose for its generosity which was the result of its nationwide isolation campaign.



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CLOKS rock the church with 'Miracle Child'

By Marion Draper

CHARD Local Kids Society (CLOKS) rocked the church in Combe St Nicholas with their very up-beat take on the meaning of Christmas.

"Miracle Child" told the story of a family gathering at Christmas and observations on the meaning of the birth of Jesus after 2,000 years. It followed young Rikki, who was searching for answers and her dilemma on what to give her own parents, and took the audience into the realms of grandparents' wartime memories and a children's school concert.

The moral tale was full of lively singing and hand-jiving and once more gave the excellent youngsters of CLOKS members a chance to showcase their talents. The acting was relaxed and funny with no fluffed lines and the singing delightful with a most rousing version of "Jingle Bells" at the end.

The backstage crew really worked hard with several scene changes involving moving real living room furniture on and off the small stage. They also hit the spotlight briefly as they walked past the front, holding various items for all to see as Rikki went through her lengthy Christmas list in an excellent solo performance.

Director Maria Farey praised the cast, who she described as very "busy children", many coping with exam pressure and other commitments.

She said: "I think to achieve that in 10 rehearsals you should be very proud of yourselves."

She then thanked the three people who had given their time to help and did not have children in the cast, Brian Eastell and Richard Cook, who did the lighting, and Mary Tucker the pianist.

CLOKS' two evening performances were fundraisers for their next main production, which will be the junior version of "Fiddler on the Roof" next June.



■ **CHRISTMAS TIPPLE:** Otterly Farey and Gabriel Swarbrick as the grandparents and, below, *The Weekender* makes it on stage with John Davis and Tara Flanagan as Dad and Rikki



■ **WARTIME MEMORIES:** Junie (Olivia Coles), Mrs Hobson (Jemima Farey) and Iris (Lily Farey). Below, one scene depicted a traditional school concert



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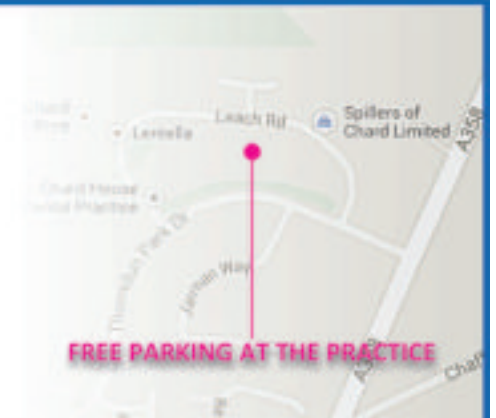


Welcome to our new Dentist Peter Gyoker...

We are proud to announce that Peter Gyoker is joining the Chard House Dental Team in Mid-January 2014.

Peter moved to the UK and has worked in Chard since 2009 and lived locally ever since. Peter loves dentistry and has special interest in restorative dentistry and implantology, which he is further developing on his post graduate course in Implant Dentistry at the University of Warwick.

Outside of the dentistry world, Peter relishes the opportunities in travelling adventures and experiencing new places.



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School stalwart retires after 30 years



■ HO HO HO-ING: Oak Class assembly at Neroche Primary School and, below, the joke-telling Santas



NEROCHE Primary School in Broadway, near Ilminster, said goodbye to stalwart staff member Melinda White before Christmas.

The school dedicated its last assembly of term on Friday, December 20th to Mrs White, who was retiring after working as a teaching assistant at the school for 30 years. She has taught countless children from across the locality how to read.

The students put on a Christmas play about Santa Claus and his elves, including some great songs and corny elf jokes. They then recited poems dedicated to their favourite teacher.

Finally there was slide show to the song "You've Got a Friend in Me", displaying photos of different classes holding up words to express how they felt about Mrs White, such as "You helped me read", "You are very nice" and "We don't want you to go".

The popular member of staff was then showered with gifts; each class had

By Marion Draper

made her a huge card and the staff and governors presented her with gifts, including binoculars for bird watching, a membership to the National Trust and a crystal vase with flowers.

The whole school then sang "You Say Goodbye, We Say Hello" and gave a heartfelt three cheers, plus one for luck.

Headteacher Connel Boyle said he had tried everything to get Mrs White to stay but the draw of a new grandchild had won.

He said to the children: "Looking around the room I wonder how many of your parents were taught by Mrs White. Her impact on this area is not measur-

able, she is very special and will be sorely missed. I hope I can tempt her back as a volunteer at some point. Neroche just won't be the same without her and she will be sorely missed."

Mrs White was overwhelmed with the attention and was very grateful for the efforts of all "her children" and for the gifts she had received.



■ CHEESY JOKES: The elf and safety officers

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DINING SETS INCLUDING EXTENDABLE TABLES

NEW YEAR NEW YOU

New Year's Resolutions for 2014?

These local businesses can help...




Dentures from the comfort of your home

TERRY New's Denture Clinic offers a service that few can compete with. Terry has been in the denture business for more than 30 years, and got introduced to the business by a relative who was a technician as well.

He visits a lot of homes, and is one of the few practices in the country who is legally qualified to make dentures without the involvement of a dentist. He can make dentures straight to the public, which saves a lot of time and hassle.

"I do a lot of home visits, and meet a lot of people and go to a lot of residential homes," Terry said. "I offer one on one service, at competitive prices."

Prices are extremely competitive even for those with a limited budget. Terry also offers a denture repair service, while customers wait.

"As I work from home, I do offer service at weekends, if I am around."

Based near Ashcot in Somerset, Terry can do home visits within a 25 mile radius of his home. For more information call 01458 210039 or cut out and keep this advertisement for future reference.



QUALITY DENTURES AT GREAT PRICES... FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME

Terry New Denture Clinic



Have the perfect denture measured, made and even fitted in the comfort of your own home with our home visits, or come to denture clinic for a consultation

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 - Registered & Qualified Clinical Dental Technician
 - 7 Days A Week Service
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- Covering Somerset
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Thomas Farm, Pedwell, Bridgwater TA7 9BN

Frown lines and worry lines???

INJECTION treatment is now available for upper facial frown lines and wrinkles - in particular, the deep furrows between the eyebrows, forehead lines and "crows feet" around the eyes.

These injections work by producing muscle relaxation and were first used 25 years ago in the treatment of squints. For the past 10 years they have been widely used for cosmetic purposes in the treatment of upper facial lines, their efficacy and safety confirmed by numerous large studies. Injection treatment is widely reported to be extremely popular with celebrities and those in the public eye, whose appearance is paramount.

Treatment is administered by a number of virtually painless, small, fine-needle injections that take only a few minutes to perform, have virtually no side effects and following which you can resume normal activities straight away. Injections usually take 3-7 days to take effect and last from 3-6 months. Injections can then be repeated. - studies have shown that following a series of in-

jections, the facial muscles may further relax and as a result, intervals between injections may be prolonged.

Skin conditions such as these can be treated at The West of England Laser Centre, based at the Nuffield Health Taunton Hospital. Treatment is undertaken by a Consultant Surgeon who has an in depth understanding of the facial anatomy. You can there-

fore rest assured that you would be in the right hands and in the right place for the treatment you require

For further information please visit our website at www.welc.co.uk. To arrange a consultation for the above or advice concerning laser removal of: moles, facial thread veins, age/sun spots, tattoos and unwanted hair please telephone 01823 331773



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- Treatment by NHS Consultant Surgeon

WEST of ENGLAND **LASER CENTRE** Located at: Nuffield Health Taunton Hospital, Staplegrove Elm, Taunton TA2 6AN

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Christmas opening times:
Mon 23rd & Tues 24th Dec, 9am - 5pm
Fri 27th & Sat 28th Dec, 9am - 6pm
New Years Day 1st January CLOSED

Feel like you need a pamper after all the stresses of Christmas?

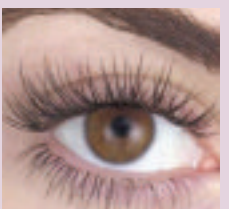
WHY not book yourself a soothing treatment at The Beauty Zone? When you visit us here at the Beauty Zone, you can be assured of professional attention by experienced therapists in relaxing surroundings. We have been established for seven years, and for those of you that still dont know where we are you can find us at 31 hair salon market square Crewkerne.

Special offer for january only: We are offering a super hot stone back neck and shoulder massage with express facial for just £45.00

Or book a prescriptive facial for £38.00 and receive a microzone eye treatment for just £5.00

Or book a back, neck and shoulder massage with foot massage for just £28.00

Telephone: 01460 75955 for appointments
Visit our website www.the-beauty-zone.co.uk or find us on facebook.
We look forward to seeing you.



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Tel: 01460 75955

dermalogica ROYAL Oe
www.the-beauty-zone.co.uk

Warner Leisure Clubs

Enjoy some fun fitness this winter at Cricket St Thomas Leisure Club.

Here at Cricket St Thomas Leisure Club we offer a varied programme that will enable you to work hard & have fun, helping you follow through with those New Year resolutions.

Our facilities offer people of all fitness abilities the opportunity to exercise, relax & meet likeminded people.

Join us this January & you will receive

- ✓ "No Joining Fee" on all 6 & 12 month upfront payments.
- ✓ £15 Beauty Salon Voucher
- ✓ Entry into our 4* Holiday Draw (Details in green box)

- Work out at your own pace in a comfortable & friendly environment.
- Gym programmes designed to meet your needs. Just the way you like it.
- Exciting classes to spice up your fitness routine & socialise with other members.
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- ✓ 17m Swimming Pool
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Join us on a 12 month upfront membership this January, February or March & we will enter you into our prize draw to win a holiday at Holme Lacy House Hotel in Hereford, one of our 4* hotels

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for any further information.


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per month.

Prima Moda Brides and the Shrubbery Hotel
presents at the Shrubbery Hotel

Wedding and Party Fayre

ON SUNDAY JANUARY 12TH 2014

IN AID OF ACTION LUCHENET




Harrimans Menswear



An excellent service in formal hire

HARRIMANS Menswear in Ilminster provide an excellent service in formal hire as well as all the traditional, casual and fashion wear for which they have built up a reputation over the last 100 years.

With hire wear supplied by Ultimate Formal Hire, we have a huge range of jacket styles, waistcoats and accessories to choose

from, but if there is something specific that they do not offer we have a huge supplier base to try and source it for you.

- The first stage of the process would be to choose which Jacket style and colour you would like, then select a waistcoat pattern from the vast range supplied and match accessories to choose

are after. When the Groom is happy with his choices, a try on can be arranged to make sure the correct items have been selected.

- Secondly, any other members of the party will need to be measured and orders completed.

- Lastly the suits arrive approximately 2 weeks before the wedding, fittings arranged, and any

adjustments can be organised for that perfect fit.

Whether it is to buy or hire Sam and her team will guide you through the process of choosing the outfits you require with as much or as little help as you want, to ensure you have as easy and stress free time as possible on the build up to your big day.



▲ Wedding & Celebration Fayre 2013



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▲ Wedding & Celebration Fayre 2013



▲ Wedding & Celebration Fayre 2013

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Prima Moda Brides and the Shrubbery Hotel
presents at the Shrubbery Hotel
Wedding and Party Fayre
ON SUNDAY JANUARY 12TH 2014
IN AID OF ACTION DUCHENNE

Prima Moda Brides

Taking the stress out of planning your big day

PRIMA MODA BRIDES situated on Ditton Street, in the beautiful market town of Ilminster, is described by owner Jean Pas as "a dressing up shop".

This shop is all about personal attention to the customer. Together with her staff, Jean gives prospective brides the chance to try on not just the dresses, but all the accessories to make up a complete ensemble which will show them a complete look for their big day.

The idea is to make the whole process fun and take some of the stress out of such an important choice. There is a long runway through the spacious shop, with a big mirror at the back and natural light, so a bride can feel the movement of her gown as she walks and her family can relax and watch on a comfy sofa, as she parades before them.

"I have brides from all over the country who see our website and come for the personal service we can offer and then they come back for their bridesmaids.

"Purchasing online is a new and exciting way to shop, but in no way compares to the quality time and experience we can devote to our clients. When they find the right dress they know it's right for them

and their whole body language changes.

"Women really enjoy having a girlie dress-up session and many stay in touch. I still get emails from a bride who moved to America, she just sent me a photo of their new baby.

"I am honest with them, I'm not just here to sell a dress and they appreciate that. We can supply a package, including the cake and will also recommend wedding car services."

The shop has a special corner dedicated to photos and thank you messages from the happy couples.

Prima Moda can dress brides for their big days from head to foot including a range of lingerie and the little details like bespoke tiaras and headdresses made by Irene Morris.

The window displays are a prominent feature of Prima Moda Brides with eye catching details, captivating prospective brides and encouraging them to come inside.

Inside are the new season's gowns from Venus and Mon Cheri in unique styles. A couture service is offered with Sarah Jackson, a well known designer for over 20 years, who has been featured in many magazines.



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Weddings & Party Fayre

Sunday 12th January
at the Shrubbery Hotel,
Ilminster
10am - 4pm

In association
with

Prima Moda
Brides
of Ilminster

www.primamodabrides.com
01460 54600

Donations welcome to the Action Duchenne on the day



BEST WESTERN Shrubbery Hotel
Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 9AR

Winter 2014 Wedding & Party Fayre Sunday January 12th

Over 20 Wedding & Party
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Great offers, discounts and special promotions
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From 10am Sunday 12th January 2014

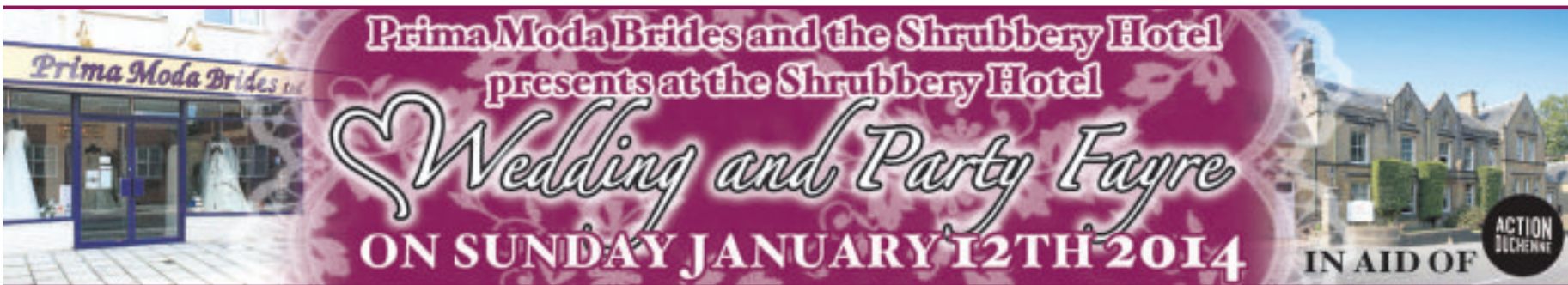
Sunday Lunches & Bar Snacks being served from 12 noon

BEST WESTERN Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster Somerset

www.shrubberyhotel.com

Tel: 01460 52106

info@shrubberyhotel.com



Wedding and Party Fayre

Sunday January 12th 2014 at Shrubbery Hotel

In aid of Action Duchenne Charity



▲ Wedding & Celebration Fayre 2013

DUE to the success of the last event, Prima Moda Brides have again worked in conjunction with the Shrubbery Hotel to organise another Wedding Fayre.

Jean of Prima Moda Brides has a wide variety of exhibitors, to show that there are many different talents to explore and celebrate throughout the year. There will be a dance demonstration and people on hand for nail, hair, music and artist, through to flowers and cakes and of course bridal wear, to name just a few of the 25 stands.

Debenhams will again

be attending to discuss their services, perhaps even a holiday through their travel department.

The chosen charity this year is the Action Duchenne to whom all exhibitors are making a donation, again to promote a little known charity but which is very close to the hearts of the people of Ilminster.

The charity will be represented at the Shrubbery if anyone would like more information. The open times are 10-00 am - 4-00 p.m.

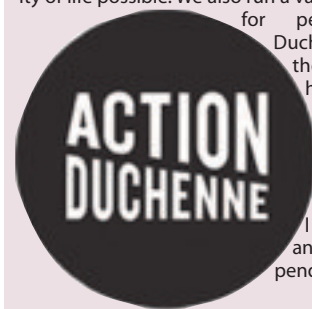
For further information please contact Jean on 01460 54600

ACTION Duchenne is a charity dedicated to finding a cure for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, a life limiting muscle wasting condition that affects around 2500 children, young people and adults in the UK today. The condition is caused by a fault to the dystrophin gene on the X chromosome meaning that over 99% of those with the condition are male. Children with Duchenne are likely to be wheelchair bound by the age of 12, have severely reduced upper body movement by the age of 20 and have a reduced life expectancy due to associated issues with the cardiac and respiratory systems.

Action Duchenne was set up in 2001 as a parent and patient led organisation with the aim of finding viable treatments or a cure for Duchenne. Since then we have funded research projects worldwide and a huge amount of progress has been made, with clinical trials now taking place on people with Duchenne. However there is still a huge amount of work to be done to ensure treatments and eventually a cure are available to everyone living with Duchenne.

Action Duchenne also operates in two other areas. We work with the government, hospitals and clinicians to ensure that people living with Duchenne have access to the right care from specialists who can help manage their complex condition and allow them to have the best quality of life possible. We also run a variety of projects

for people with Duchenne and their families to help them with their education and the transition to adult life - work, relationships and living independently.



Sarah Jackson Designs

INTERNATIONALLY recognised, her gowns have been commissioned by various celebrities. Sarah designs beautiful and individual garments, not only for private clients but also for a prestigious New York bridal salon. Sarah's success and growing reputation are due to the glowing reports her dresses have had. Her talent is in identifying what will suit the bride, producing individual designs and cutting and personally fitting the garment to ensure that it fits and flatters the figure perfectly. Bridesmaid dresses, mother of the bride outfits, eveningwear and all types of special occasion wear can be designed and made to order just for you.

From your initial enquiry to your finished garment, Sarah will give you the professional and individual attention that you deserve. All the cutting and every fitting is carried out personally by Sarah to ensure complete perfection.

'I love what I do, I am hugely enthusiastic and have lots of ideas which means that every dress I create is as entirely different as each bride's personality and perfect for each individual!'

John Abraham Artist

If you are interested in commissioning me to produce a painting please let me know your contact details and I call you to discuss what you have in mind.

Tel: 0789 421 3388
www.johnabrahamartist.co.uk johnabrahamartist@yahoo.com

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MERRIOTT £199 000

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Porch - Reception Room - Sitt/Dining Room - Kitchen
Cloakroom - 3 Bedrooms - Bathroom - Gardens
Driveway - No Chain - ER: E

Ilminster Office 01460 259699



CREWKERNE £125 000

SPACIOUS HOUSE AND GARDEN

Porch - Hall - Sitting/Dining Room - Kitchen
Cloakroom - Two Double Bedroom
Bathroom - WC - Gardens To Three Sides

Crewkerne Office 01460 78900



ILMINSTER £165 000

SPACIOUS FAMILY HOUSE

Hall - Sitting/Dining Room - Kitchen/Breakfast Room
Utility - 3 Beds - Bathroom - WC - GFCH
UPVC Windows - ORP - Gardens - AW:EPC

Ilminster Office 01460 259699



CREWKERNE £246 000

IMPROVED DETACHED BUNGALOW

Hall - Sitting/Dining Room - Kitchen
Utility - Three Bedrooms - Bathroom
Good Size Garden - Garage - Driveway

Crewkerne Office 01460 78900



CREWKERNE £169 950

GRADE II LISTED GEORGIAN PROPERTY

Entrance Hall - Sitting Room - Dining room
Kitchen - Rear Lobby/Utility Area - Three
Bedrooms - Bathroom - Garden

Crewkerne Office 01460 78900



CREWKERNE £179 950

SPACIOUS HOUSE IN POPULAR LOCATION

Hall - Utility - Sitting Room - Dining Room
Conservatory - Kitchen - Cloakroom - Study Area
Three Bedrooms - Bathroom - Garage - Gardens

Crewkerne Office 01460 78900



MERRIOTT £199 950

THREE BEDROOM HOUSE IN VILLAGE

Hall - Sitting/Dining Rm - Kitchen - Cloakrm
Three Bedrms Family Bathrm - Gardens
Parking Garage No Chain

Crewkerne Office 01460 78900



HINTON ST GEORGE £345 000

ATTRACTIVE FORMER FORGE IN RURAL LOCATION

Entrance Hall - Sitting Room - Kitchen/Breakfast Room
Shower Room - Dining Room/Bedroom 3
Study/Bedroom 4 - Stairs/Landing - 2 Further Bedrooms
Bathroom - Gardens with views - ORP - Garage - ER:E

Ilminster Office 01460 259699



ILTON £154 500

MID TERRACE FAMILY HOME

Entrance Lobby - Sitting Room - Kitchen/Breakfast
Room - Cloakroom Conservatory - Master Bedroom
with En-Suite Shower Room - Two Further Bedrooms
Bathroom - Gardens - Single Garage

Ilminster Office 01460 259699



HASELBURY PLUCKNETT POA

EXTENDED PERIOD COTTAGE

Hall - Sitting Room - Dining Room
Kitchen/Breakfast Room - Pantry Cloakroom
Three Bedrooms - Bathroom
OFCH - Gardens - Parking - ER: E

Crewkerne Office 01460 78900



MERRIOTT £167 000

SEMI-DETACHED PROPERTY IN VILLAGE LOCATION

Hall - Sitting/Dining Room - Kitchen/Breakfast Room
Three Bedrooms - Bathroom
Front and Rear Gardens with Views - Off-Road Parking

Crewkerne Office 01460 78900



CREWKERNE £154 950

SPACIOUS SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE

Porch - Hall - Sitting/Dining Room - Extended
Kitchen Two Double Bedrooms - Shower Room
Garden - Off-Road Parking

Crewkerne Office 01460 78900



CREWKERNE £89 950

TUCKED AWAY APARTMENT

Private Front Door - Sitting Room - Kitchen
Bedroom - Bathroom - Parking

Crewkerne Office 01460 78900



ILMINSTER £164 000

THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE

Entrance Hall - Sitting Room - Dining Room
Kitchen - 3 Bedrooms - Bathroom
Front & Rear Gardens - Off Road Parking

Ilminster Office 01460 259699



DRIMPTON £349 950

WELL PRESENTED DETACHED HOUSE

Hall - Cloakroom - Sitting Room - Dining Room
Kitchen - Utility - Three Bedrooms - Bathroom
Large Garden - Workshop - Garage

Crewkerne Office 01460 78900



CREWKERNE £600 PCM

WELL PRESENTED AND SPACIOUS COTTAGE

Entrance Lobby - Sitting Room
Kitchen/Dining Room - Three Bedrooms
Bathroom - Rear Courtyard

Crewkerne Office 01460 78900



CREWKERNE £585 PCM

CHARMING MID TERRACE COTTAGE

Sitting Room - Kitchen/Dining Room - Utility Room
Two Double Bedrooms - Bathroom - Rear Garden
Roadside Parking

Crewkerne Office 01460 78900



MERRIOTT £450 PCM

PRETTY COTTAGE TUCKED AWAY

Sitting Room - Dining Area/Study - Kitchen - Bathroom
Bedroom - Courtyard Garden to Rear
Good Front Garden - Roadside Parking

Crewkerne Office 01460 78900



BARRINGTON £900 PCM

DETACHED PERIOD VILLAGE HOME

Entrance Hall - Sitting Room - Sun Room
Kitchen/ - Dining Room - Three Bedrooms
Bathroom - Gardens - Cellar

Ilminster Office 01460 259699



CREWKERNE £395 PCM

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Bedroom - Bathroom
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the Marine
Theatre***

The folk elder-statesman
comes to Lyme Regis

See page 19

weekenderlife

Diary Dates

UNTIL JANUARY 31st

CHARD: Exhibition of local artists at the Gallery Café Bar & Bistro, Holyrood Street. Including paintings by the late Mike Aplin, and internationally renowned artist. Open 9am-5pm Monday to Saturday.

FRIDAY JANUARY 3rd

CREWKERNE: Sequence Dancing at the Victoria Hall, 1.45-4pm. For more details call 01308 862866 or 01935 823506.

SUNDAY JANUARY 5th

HORTON: New Year Breakfast at Horton Village Hall, 9am-11.30am. £5.

MONDAY JANUARY 6th

ILMINSTER: Neroche Decorative and Fine Arts Society meeting at Dillington House at 2.30pm. Lecture given by Dr Paula Nuttall on 'Isabella d'Este, First Lady of the Renaissance'. For more details visit www.nerochesd-fas.org.uk

TUESDAY JANUARY 7th

CREWKERNE: Over 70s group at Henhayes Centre from 10am-2.30pm. £6.50, includes wholesome lunch. Transport can be arranged. For more details call 01460 74340.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 8th

CLAPTON: Clapton & Wayford Village Hall - sew, knit & natter, 10.30am, all welcome; details from 01460 72837
CREWKERNE: Bingo - cash prizes, at Henhayes Centre, eyes down 2.30pm.

THURSDAY JANUARY 9th

CHARD: Messy Church from 4-6pm at the Baptist Church, Holyrood Street. Open to all children and parents, and is a chance for the whole family to enjoy the time together. The event is free, and includes a hot meal, though donations towards the costs are welcome.
CREWKERNE: Over 50s Keep Fit at Henhayes Centre. Class begins at 10am and costs £3 for non members.

FRIDAY JANUARY 10th

CLAPTON: Clapton & Wayford Village Hall - lunch club, mid-day for 12.30pm start. All welcome, but please book places in advance by phoning 01460 77057.
CREWKERNE: Sequence Dancing at the Victoria Hall, 1.45-4pm. For more details call 01308 862866 or 01935 823506.

SATURDAY JANUARY 11th

HINTON ST GEORGE: 'Fix in the Stix' presents film: 'About Time' (cert 12A). In the village hall at 7.30pm. Tickets £5 in advance from the Village Shop and Dorothy's Tea Room, or £5.50 on the door. To reserve tickets please call 01460 72906.

TUESDAY JANUARY 14th

CHARD: Chard WI Meeting at 7.30pm at the Baptist Church Hall, Holyrood Street. Visitors and new members welcome. 2nd Tuesday of every month (Excluding August).

THURSDAY JANUARY 16th

CHARD: Chard Camera Club practical evening, depth of field/focus. Presidents Portfolio competition results.

FRIDAY JANUARY 17th

CREWKERNE: Sequence Dancing at the Victoria Hall, 1.45-4pm. For more details call 01308 862866 or 01935 823506.

SATURDAY JANUARY 18th

SEAVINGTON ST MARY: Fundraising dance with 'Kalibre' for Children's Hospice South West at Millennium Hall. £6 at the door. No bar BYO. Free tea and coffee. For more details call 01935 881510.

WHITELACKINGTON: Bric-a-brac/Table Top Sale in the village hall (TA19 9EF). Tables £5, to book call 01460 259565. 10am-1pm. Ample parking, refreshments available

MONDAY JANUARY 22nd

CREWKERNE: Crewkerne Awareness meeting, with guest speaker Linda Fathrop on Astrology. At the Meeting Room, Unitarian Chapel from 7-9.30pm Admission £2.50 (includes light refreshments. All welcome. For more details call 01460 78673

TUESDAY JANUARY 21st

CHARD: Film: 'Blue Jasmine', presented by Screen at the Guildhall. At The Guildhall, Fore Street. Admission £5 (no concessions). Doors open 7pm, film from 7.30pm

FRIDAY JANUARY 24th

TATWORTH: Film: 'Blue Jasmine' (cert 12A) at Tatworth Memorial Hall, doors open 7.15pm, film 8pm. Organised by T&F Movies. For more details call 01460 220198.
CREWKERNE: Sequence Dancing at the Victoria Hall, 1.45-4pm. For more details call 01308 862866 or 01935 823506.

THURSDAY JANUARY 30th

CHARD: Chard Camera Club - inter-club competition against Wellington Club at Chard Baptist Church Hall, Holyrood Street.

CLAPTON: Local resident Anne Mosscrop will recreate her trip to Antarctica in an illustrated Travel Talk at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall. Entrance, £3.50 includes cheese & wine; proceeds to be shared between Christian Aid & Village Hall. All welcome; do come & join us for a most entertaining evening; Anne is well known for adding plenty of humour to her talks. Further information from 01460 74849.

Forthcoming Events in Chard Guildhall

Every Sunday 10:30am
FOREFRONT COMMUNITY CHURCH
Church Service - All welcome

Every Tuesday 09:30 am and 11:30 am & 7.30pm
SLIMMING WORLD
Lose weight the extra easy way. Come along and find out how

Every Thursday, 8am - 2pm
ANTIQUES FAIR
Books, china, jewellery & much more
Now also available for Food and Craft stallholders
Customer admission free, refreshments and lunches available
For further information contact 01460 239 567

THURSDAYS 8am - 2pm
CAFÉ OPEN

Every Saturday
CHARD STREET MARKET
8.30am to 2.00pm.
New stall holders always welcome
Please ring 01460 239567

15th, 21st & 29th January 2014
"MEETING VOICES COMMUNITY CHOIR"
in the town hall from 7.30pm - 9.15pm
New members always welcome.

Saturday 4th January 2014
9am - 12.30pm
POPULAR FAYRE
Admission Free, refreshments available

Saturday 4th January 2014
10am - 11am
COUNCILLORS' SURGERY

Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm
CHARD TOWN COUNCIL RECEPTION

We have many other events taking place.
For further details please contact
Chard Town Council,
The Guildhall, Chard
Tel: 01460 239 567
WWW.CHARD.GOV.UK



CREWKERNE WEEKLY MARKET

NEW LOCATION IN MARKET SQUARE

Every Wednesday - 9am to 1pm



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bread,
pastries,
fresh fish,
herbs & spices, plants,
yarn, tools & much more...



For more information call Crewkerne Town Council
on 01460 74001
or visit www.crewkernetown.org/TownCouncil

PILATES

IF AT 30 YOU ARE, YOU ARE STIFF & OUT OF SHAPE
- YOU ARE OLD! IF AT 60, YOU ARE SUPPLE &
STRONG - YOU ARE YOUNG!" JOSEPH PILATES

MON - 2.00PM - WEST CHINNOCK HALL
MON - 4.00PM - EAST CHINNOCK HALL
TUE - 9.30AM MERRIOTT VILLAGE HALL
WED - 6PM C/CHURCH HALL, CREWKERNE

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AIDTA, RTS on 01935 863865

or visit www.helenlaxtonschoolofjazzdancing.com for details of our acting,
singing, stage dance, Performing Arts School

The Henhayes Centre in Crewkerne LOOK WHAT'S ON

Open to all 5 days a week
for lunch, tea or coffee 9am to
4.30pm and Saturday mornings
for coffee or tea and cakes from
10am to 12noon

The Centre can also be hired

The Henhayes Community Centre Is open again

Usual activities have resumed
and freshly prepared lunches,
tea or coffee are available

Please phone before 10.30am
if you would like to reserve a
place for lunch

EVERYONE AT THE
CENTRE WISHES YOU ALL
A HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Henhayes Centre,
South Street Car Park, Crewkerne
Tel: 01460 74340
www.henhayes.co.uk

Cinema

This week's new releases

AMERICAN HUSTLE¹⁵

A CON man, Irving Rosenfeld, along with his seductive British partner, Sydney Prosser, is forced to work for a wild FBI agent, Richie DiMaso. DiMaso pushes them into a world of Jersey powerbrokers and mafia.

Stars Christian Bale, Amy Adams and Bradley Cooper.

MANDELA: LONG WALK TO FREEDOM^{12A}

A CHRONICLE of Nelson Mandela's life journey from his childhood in a rural village through to his inauguration as the first democratically elected president of South Africa.

Stars Idris Elba, Naomie Harris and Terry Pheto.

LAST VEGAS^{12A}

Three sixty-something friends take a break from their day-to-day lives to throw a bachelor party in Las Vegas for their last remaining single pal.

Stars Robert De Niro, Michael Douglas and Morgan Freeman.

CINEMA LISTINGS

Friday, Jan 3rd - Thursday, Jan 9th

ALL LISTINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

YEovil CINEWORLD

Yeo Leisure Park, Old Station Rd
Tel: 0871 200 2000
www.cineworld.co.uk

American Hustle¹⁵

Daily: 14.10, 17.20, 20.30

plus Fri-Mon: 11.00am

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug^{12A}

Daily: 12.50, 16.30, 19.20, 20.20

Frozen^U

Fri-Sun: 10.40, 11.40, 12.40, 13.40,

14.20, 17.10, Mon: 10.40, 11.40, 13.40,

17.10, Tue-Thu: 17.10

Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones¹⁵

Daily: 14.30, 16.50, 19.00,

21.20, plus Fri, Sat, Mon: 12.20

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty^{PG}

Daily: 15.10, 17.50, 20.40

plus Mon-Wed: 12.40

47 Ronin^{12A}

Daily: 18.20, 21.10, plus

Tue-Thu: 13.10

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues¹⁵

Daily: 15.20, 18.10, 21.00,

plus Mon-Thu: 14.20

Last Vegas^{12A}

Daily: 13.00, 15.30, 18.00, 20.50

Walking With Dinosaurs^U

Fri-Sun: 12.10, 14.40, 17.00

Mon-Thu: 17.00

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire^{12A}

Fri-Mon, Wed: 20.00

The Harry Hill Movie^{PG}

Fri-Mon: 11.30, 16.00

Tue-Thu: 16.00

Cloudy With A Chance of Meatballs 2^U

Fri-Sun: 10.00, Mon: 10.15am

Turbo^U Fri-Mon: 10.00am

Mandela: The Long Walk To Freedom^{12A}

Daily: 13.20, 16.40, 19.50

Justin and The Knights of Valour^{PG}

Fri-Mon: 10.10, 10.20am

Moshi Monsters^U

Fri-Mon: 10.50, 13.10

TAUNTON ODEON

Heron Gate, Riverside
Tel: 0871 22 44 007
www.odeon.co.uk

American Hustle¹⁵

Daily: 14.15, 17.20, 20.30

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues¹⁵

Daily: 15.20, 17.40, 20.20

Frozen 2D^U

Daily: 12.00, 14.45, 17.30

Frozen 3D^U

Fri-Sun: 11.00, 13.30

Mon-Thu: 13.30

Last Vegas^{12A}

Daily: 13.00, 15.40, 18.10, 20.45

Mandela: Long Walk To Freedom^{12A}

Daily: 13.20, 16.40, 20.00

Moshi Monsters: The Movie^U

Daily: 12.10

Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones¹⁵

Daily: 19.15, 21.30

The Harry Hill Movie^{PG}

Fri-Sun: 10.45

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 2D^{12A}

Daily: 12.00, 15.30, 19.10

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D^{12A}

Daily: 16.30, 20.10

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty^{12A}

Daily: 16.30, 20.20

Turbo^U

Fri-Sun: 10.30am

Walking With Dinosaurs 3D^U

Fri-Sun: 11.30, 14.00

Mon-Thu: 14.00

ILMINSTER

arts centre

AT THE MEETING HOUSE

The management and trustees would like to wish everyone a peaceful and happy New Year.

The Arts Centre will re-open at 9.30am on Monday 6th January.

Booking details: 01460 54973
www.themeetinghouse.org.uk
info@themeetinghouse.org.uk
East Street, Ilminster, Somerset. TA19 0AN.
Open Mon-Fri 9.30-4.30, Sat 10.00-2.30.

You can email your Diary Dates to
rob@pemedialife.co.uk

Deadline 12noon Wednesday. Unfortunately we cannot accept ongoing entries without a list of dates

Chamber Choir welcome in New Year with concert this weekend

WELCOME in the New Year with Somerset Chamber Choir's concert offering a feast of music for Christmas, New Year, Epiphany and Candlemas in the atmospheric setting of the Chapel of King's College, Taunton on Sunday, January 5th at 3pm.

The recipe for this feast states: Take nine well-known 19th and 20th-century carols, blend in five carol arrangements, mix with two renaissance motets, add a dash of organ music by Bach and John Cook, and sprinkle with three audience carols. Sit back and be stirred, allowing the ear to be entranced and spirits raised, then...Thou shalt find the winter's rage freeze thy blood less coldly!

The concert will include music by Bach, Berlioz, Byrd, Darke, Holst, Lassus, Morten Lauridsen, Mathias, Matthew Owens, Vaughan Williams, Judith Weir, Eric Whitacre & more, with the choir - known as one of the finest groups of singers in the region - joined by Richard Pearce (organ) and conducted by Graham Caldebeck.

Tickets (priced £11, £15 & £18) are available online at www.somersetchamberchoir.org.uk, from Taunton TIC: 01823 336344 or at the door



SOMERSET Chamber Choir

VIN GARBUTT AT THE MARINE THEATRE

POWERFUL, hugely moving, warm, humane, inspired, funny and gut-wrenchingly honest. These are just some of the superlatives used to describe Vin Garbutt's performance. An elder statesman of folk, Vin's career has spanned over 40 years of constant worldwide touring. His songs are inspired by the folk tradition, but have transformed into gritty social comment and life observations. He is renowned for his hilarious intros, but for him

his song lyrics are the crux of his performance. A perfect winter warmer this January at the Marine!

Winner of BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards "Best Live Act" Award 2001.

"Vin cuts through the bull, grasping those he meets firmly by the hand and shaking them up with a dose of laughter and tears.

It's a true gift to be able to make us laugh and squirm at the same time, but Vin does both. He should be prescribed on the National Health."

English Folk Dance & Song Society

Vin Garbutt plays at the Marine

Theatre on Saturday, January 18th. Doors open 7.45pm, with music from 8.30pm. Tickets £14 full price, or £13 concessions, and are available online at www.marinetheatre.com or by calling 01297 442138. A Theatre-Friends discount is available.



VIN Garbutt

Neroche talk on Isabella d'Este, First Lady of the Renaissance

THE first lecture of the New Year at Neroche DFAS will explore the life and influence of the First Lady of the Renaissance, Isabella d'Este.

Married at sixteen to the Marquis of Mantua, Isabella d'Este was indomitable and capable, cultivated and stylish, and, in her own words, "hungry for art". She owned works by Mantegna, Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo, and amassed a collection of classical objects that was exceptional for a female pa-

tron. Dr Paula Nuttall, Director of V&A Medieval & Renaissance Year Course, author and lecturer at the National Gallery, Courtauld Institute, Christie's Education and The Art Fund, will look at Isabella d'Este's life, her character and, in particular, at the masterpieces of art that she owned.

The talk will take place at Dillington House, Ilminster on Monday, January 6th at 2.30pm.

Refreshments, including wine and beer, are available before each lecture. Visitors are welcome to attend up to two sessions in any season, for a suggested donation of £5 per visit and booking isn't necessary. Join us on Monday January 6th at 2.30pm for what promises to be a fascinating look at a remarkable woman and her art.

For full details see the Lectures page on www.nerochedfas.org.uk

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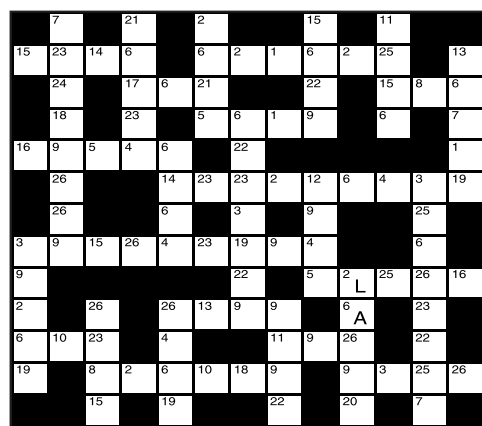
One and a half miles outside Chard on the A30

Brain Gym

No.254

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



| | | |
|----|----|----|
| 1 | 14 | |
| 2 | L | 15 |
| 3 | 16 | |
| 4 | 17 | |
| 5 | 18 | |
| 6 | A | 19 |
| 7 | 20 | |
| 8 | 21 | |
| 9 | 22 | |
| 10 | 23 | |
| 11 | 24 | |
| 12 | 25 | |
| 13 | 26 | |

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

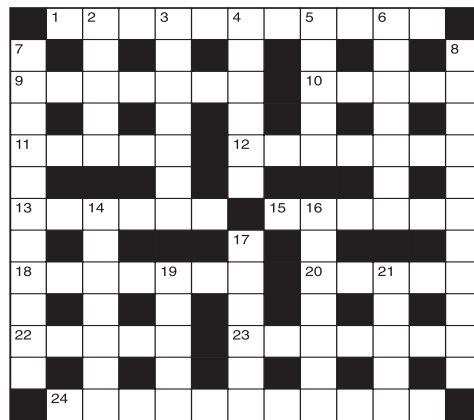
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | N | O | H | F | G | D | I | K | C | V | M | L | S |
| 14 | W | B | A | Q | E | X | Z | J | T | Y | P | R | U |

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Across | Down |
| 1. Skilled craftsmen? (11) | 2. Dislikes haste, perhaps (5) |
| 9. Game, and how to score in it (7) | 3. Money from pirates (7) |
| 10. People act foolishly in it (5) | 4. Enjoy a flavour (6) |
| 11. Stone used to make an attack (5) | 5. Presents one's natural talents (5) |
| 12. Birds I hide in a ship (7) | 6. Ends of routes vary in merit (7) |
| 13. Attacked and bombed perhaps (6) | 7. News being made? (11) |
| 15. A colourless individual (6) | 8. It records world-shaking events (11) |
| 18. Take pains to produce inconvenience (7) | 14. Rich fabric with an outstanding design (7) |
| 20. Vessel carrying fuel from Loire (5) | 16. The prospect for a guardsman (4-3) |
| 22. All right, a sanctimonious creature (5) | 17. Woolworker is something of a problem (6) |
| 23. Terminated the sitting, presumably (5,2) | 19. She's a new member of a union (5) |
| 24. Discerning writer and french sailor (11) | 21. Like a ship taking a number to port (5) |



Quick Clues:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Across | Down |
| 1. Inconsiderate (11) | 2. Sharpened (5) |
| 9. Dark cell (7) | 3. Unavailing (7) |
| 10. Combine (5) | 4. Upright (6) |
| 11. Deposit (5) | 5. Confine (5) |
| 12. Paid up (7) | 6. Ambles (7) |
| 13. Strain (6) | 7. Immaturity (11) |
| 15. Motive (6) | 8. Starring part (7,4) |
| 18. Envelop (7) | 14. Disturbance (7) |
| 20. Come in (5) | 16. Put to death (7) |
| 22. Felony (5) | 17. Issue(6) |
| 23. Odd (7) | 19. Corpulent (5) |
| 24. Stocks and shares (11) | 21. Reliance (5) |

Sudoku

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 9 | 7 | 4 | | |
| 2 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 8 | |
| 5 | 1 | | | | 6 |
| 7 | 3 | | | | 9 |
| 1 | | 6 | 4 | | |
| 6 | 4 | 5 | | | |
| 1 | | 3 | 9 | | |
| 5 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 1 | |
| | 4 | 6 | 5 | | |

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 4 |
| 2 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 1 |
| 6 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 3 |
| 1 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 8 |
| 4 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 7 |
| 3 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 2 |
| 9 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 5 |
| 5 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 9 |
| 7 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 6 |

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
Across: 1 Penelope; 5 Spar; 9 Tsar; 10 Distinct; 11 Cache; 12 Illicit; 13 Dentist's chair; 18 Sea-fever; 19 Toss; 20 Animate; 21 Chair; 22 Nigh; 23 Skittles. Down: 2 Enslave; 3 Earshot; 4 Pain in the neck; 6 Panacea; 7 Rotator; 8 Italic; 13 Disdain; 14 Nearing; 15 Ice-man; 16 Hatchet; 17 Inspire. QUICK - Across: 1 Contempt; 5 Serf; 9 Alas; 10 Contract; 11 Equal; 12 Imitate; 13 Defactiveness; 18 Ceremony; 19 Eddy; 20 Initial; 21 Offer; 22 Ever; 23 Eyeglass. Down: 2 Oblique; 3 Testate; 4 Provisionally; 6 Emanate; 7 Fitness; 8 Strife; 13 Decline; 14 Furtive; 15 Commit; 16 Needful; 17 Sadness.



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Wimbledon

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The world's premier Grand Slam tennis tournament
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Price includes

- Return coach travel
- One night's bed and continental breakfast accommodation at a three-star hotel in the London area
- A full day at Wimbledon with a reserved seat on No.1 Court
- A visit to Windsor
- The services of a Newmarket Tour Manager



3 days from
£139.00

Paris Valentine Break

The ultimate romantic weekend
Departs 14 February 2014

Paris must surely be the world's most romantic city - nowhere else is quite so exciting, glamorous or beautiful. Every year, young lovers, newlyweds and couples of all ages find themselves delighted, charmed and captured by the city's unique atmosphere. Join them for a Valentine's weekend you'll never forget.

Price includes

- Return coach travel
- Return Channel crossings
- Two nights' bed and continental breakfast accommodation in a three-star hotel in the Greater Paris area
- Coach transfers into central Paris
- An excursion to Montmartre
- The services of a Newmarket Tour Manager



2 days from
£189.00

The Eagles in Concert

At the O2 Arena, London
Departs 16 June 2014

The Eagles, standard-bearers of West Coast 'country-rock' are to perform many of their greatest hits minutely chronicled in the recent acclaimed History of the Eagles documentary.

Price includes

- Return coach travel from the local area
- One night's bed & breakfast accommodation at a good quality hotel in the Greater London area
- A ticket for the Eagles concert (upgrades available)
- Coach transfers between your hotel and the concert
- A visit to Central London on day two
- The services of a Newmarket Tour manager

Strictly Come Dancing Live! 2014

Join celebrities, dancers & judges from the TV series in Strictly Come Dancing Live! 2014 at the iconic O2 Arena, London and judge for yourself who is the best dancer!!

Departs 8 February 2014

2 days from **£169.00**

4★ London Theatre Saturday Night Show

Our superb value London Theatre breaks give you the opportunity of seeing the top West End show of your choice plus the luxury of a night in a four-star hotel with leisure facilities!

Departures until March 2014

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Ladies' Day at Royal Ascot

High fashion and high stakes at the most stylish date of the racing calendar. See the Royal Procession and witness the best of flat racing as they battle it out.

Departs 18 June 2014

2 days from **£129.00**

Johnny Mathis in Concert

Enjoy a fantastic concert as 'The Voice of Romance', Johnny Mathis performs live for his many UK fans, singing many of his greatest hits.

Departs 10 April 2014

2 days from **£169.00**

'The Daniel O'Donnell Show'

See 'The Daniel O'Donnell Show' at the Brentwood Leisure Centre, Essex, near London. You will hear hit and classic tunes that have become warm favourites with all Daniel fans.

Departs 12 April 2014

2 days from **£169.00**

"We would like to say how much we enjoyed our holiday. It was very well organised, the hotel was good and our Tour Manager was very friendly and helpful."

Mrs P, via email

Cliff Richard in Brussels

Join Cliff Richard at Brussels' Palais 12 indoor arena, for a Still Reelin' and A-Rockin' concert, including songs from his 100th album release The Fabulous Rock 'n' Roll Songbook, flying from your chosen local UK airport!

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The Cheltenham Festival

Experience the drama and excitement of the 2014 National Hunt's Blue Riband event on this great value two-day coach break that includes two days of racing, with the famous 'Gold Cup'.

Departs 13 March 2014

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Tick brochure(s) required: Wimbledon - WIM Paris Valentine Break - PVD The Eagles in Concert - EAG Strictly Come Dancing Live! 2014 - SKV Four-Star London Theatre Saturday Night Show - BEC Ladies' Day at Royal Ascot - HRA Johnny Mathis in Concert - JAM Daniel O'Donnell - WOO Cliff Richard in Brussels - FIJ The Cheltenham Festival - HRW **TCW**

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 Ilminster, Somerset
 £8.00 per hour, Full Time
 We are looking for a Site Operative who has experience and knowledge of the building industry to work as a Damp Proofing and Timer Treatment Technician. You must have a CSCS Card and ideally a CSRT Certificate (Certified Surveyor Remedial Treatment), although this is not essential. You must have a current driving licence. The role will involve injecting DPC (Damp Proofing Course) and the installations of cavity drains. Due to the nature of the role you will undertake minor building works and the ability to plaster would be an advantage. The role will involve travelling across Somerset and parts of Dorset and Devon. A Company Vehicle will be provided. The hours of work will be Monday - Friday between 7.30am- 5pm.
 To apply, please post or email your CV with covering letter to info@sterlingpreservation.co.uk or 25 Ilton Business Park, Ilminster, TA19 9BU
Trainee Dental Nurse
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 Meets National Minimum Wage
 Full Time
 Experience not required as full training will be provided. This vacancy is primarily based at the Wincanton practice but Ideal candidates would live in the Yeovil area as applicants must have access to transport as the employer would like his new recruit to be able to work at his Ilminster branch at times, depending on their requirements. Employer states you will be joining a small, friendly practice within a successful expanding group. Successful candidates will be enrolled on an evening course to achieve a qualification which will allow them to be registered with the GDC. Successful applicants are required to provide an enhanced disclosure. Disclosure expense will be met by the employer.
 To apply email your CV and covering letter to neil-noronha@hotmail.com



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Vauxhall's 'Limited Editions' have unlimited spec appeal

WITH exceptionally generous standard spec and prices starting from just £8,995, Vauxhall has bolstered its range with stylish new 'Limited Edition' models including Astra GTC, Astra 5-door hatchback, Insignia and Corsa.

Available through Flexible Finance* or Flexible Personal Contract Purchase (PCP) finance packages, this new Vauxhall range is limited purely in name as these hot models are set to prove extremely popular with customers.

With over £2,000-worth of additional spec and priced from £19,995, the sleek Astra GTC Limited Edition is one of the best looking 3-door coupes on the market. Good looking yet equally fun-to-drive, this well-kitted out GTC features 20-inch bi-colour alloy wheels, VXR styling kit, front fog lights, dark tinted rear glass and Bluetooth mobile phone system.

With prices starting from £18,460, the stylish Astra 5-door

hatchback Limited Edition features generous standard specification including 19-inch alloy wheels, leather trim and ergonomic heated sports front seats and imposing VXR-style front bumper. Owners get the latest tech connectivity including a mobile phone system with Bluetooth and a USB port for smartphones, tablets and MP3 players.

Launched this year, Vauxhall's new Insignia has received universal plaudits for its premium design, cutting edge technology and engines which combine power, frugality and sector leading CO2 emissions. Available in hatchback and Sports Tourer body styles and priced from £21,029, the Insignia Limited Edition feature generous standard specification including 18-inch bi-colour alloy wheels, VXR Styling Pack, electrically heated sports front seats, front and rear parking sensors and front fog lights.

Starting from £8,995, the funky Corsa Sting is both fashionable and affordable. A guaranteed head-turner, the Corsa Sting is available with a choice of 16- or 17-inch alloy wheels in white or silver finish, with twin sports stripes and matching exterior mirrors. Standard equipment also includes CD/MP3 CD player, aux-in socket and speed-sensitive power steering.

Flex Appeal

The Limited Edition range is available through Vauxhall's selection of great offers including Flexible Finance and Flexible PCP plans. Flexible Finance allows customers to tailor their finance to suit their budgets, putting them in the very best car they can afford.

All buyers have to do is choose and specify their new model at www.vauxhall.co.uk, decide on a deposit from zero upwards (Vauxhall will even contribute up to £2,000) and select any term between 24 and 60 months. Customers also benefit from zero per cent APR.

"We are delighted to announce these Limited Edition Vauxhalls with stunning good looks, exceptional standard spec and prices starting from just £8,995," said Stuart Harris, Vauxhall's Head of Carline Brand. "Stylish and offering great value-for-money through a finance package to suit your budget, launching the Limited Editions range is the perfect way to round off Vauxhall's 110th year of building and selling vehicles in Britain."

There's also nothing limited about the manufacturer's warranty; Vauxhall gives peace of mind for the life of the vehicle via its industry-leading Lifetime Warranty. Available to the first owner of all new Vauxhall cars, the warranty is valid for the lifetime of the vehicle up to a maximum of 100,000 miles.

All Limited Edition models are available to order now. Visit www.vauxhall.co.uk for your nearest dealer.



▲ Vauxhall's 'Limited Editions' have unlimited spec appeal



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The Europcar January Sale!

EUROPCAR, the leader in car hire services in Europe, is launching its New Year sale with a range of budget-busting offers. Hirers can get up to 50% off UK car hire booked in January and taken before 30th April*, so it's not just furniture, fridges and fashion that consumers can make big savings on in January – they can save on car and van hire too!

From as little as £12 per day**, customers can hire a Hyundai i10 and start the year by taking advantage of the great rates on offer from Europcar. The New Year sale also extends to the Prestige fleet which offers up to 30% off vehicles such as the Mercedes-Benz S Class available from just £84 a day***. They can also save up to 20% on van hire, with vans available from under £15 per day**** during the sale.

"After the expense of the festive season, we're aiming to help our customers kick start the New Year for less," said Ken McCall Managing Director, Europcar UK Group. "We think our January sale is the perfect excuse for booking a break from the winter blues, or even just grabbing some bargains in the sales, and with up to 50% off car hire, customers can do so for less."

Hit the Sales in Style

Shopping centres across the UK will be bustling in January, offering great discounts on high street brands. Hiring a car will make it even easier for shoppers heading to outlets such as

Bicester Village, Bluewater or Gunwharf Quays. Having easy access to a larger vehicle could also be handy to get all the bargains back home, plus by using a hire car shoppers will save on wear on their own vehicle.

Go for a Country Retreat

Sometimes piping hot fish and chips on the beach on a bright wintry day is the perfect antidote to the winter months. And Europcar's great January rates on car hire, available on reservations taken before 31st Jan, mean it's more affordable than ever to arrange a weekend getaway in Pembrokeshire or a drive down to Cornwall's dramatic coastline. For a more sedate break, nothing beats locations like the Lake District or the New Forest for a country hotel, a roaring fire and a bracing walk.

Weekend city breaks for less

Yearning to see the hustle and bustle of a city winter? One of Europcar's smaller, economical vehicles is the perfect solution to both get you there and get around, and with up to 50% off is a cheaper way to travel.

Ken McCall, Managing Director, Europcar UK Group, concludes, "Whether you prefer the buzz and nightlife of a city break or the peace and tranquillity of a rural idyll, we have a car to suit every traveller. And with up to 50% off, mobility has never been so affordable."



▲ The Europcar January Sale



▲ Up to 20% off van hire

New Volkswagen Passat Executive and Executive Style for 2014

VOLKSWAGEN is adding even more luxury and style to the best-selling Passat range, with the introduction of two new trim levels: Executive and Executive Style.

The Executive sits above the entry level S and BlueMotion models in the Passat range, and comes with a comprehensive standard specification.

On the outside, new 17-inch 'Michigan' alloy wheels (a full-size alloy spare is also included) are complemented by exterior chrome trim, along with matt black roof rails on the Estate.

Inside, the S's standard DAB radio, MDI multi-device interface with USB and iPhone cables and Bluetooth connectivity are added to with Volkswagen's RNS 315 touch-screen satellite navigation system. The leather-trimmed multifunction wheel and gear lever are enhanced by Vienna leather upholstery, including heated front seats, and electric adjustment for the driver's seat.

Standard 2Zone climate control helps to keep the cabin at the perfect temperature for both driver and front passenger, while automatic lights and wipers ensure vi-

sion is optimised at all times, as does the auto-dimming interior rear-view mirror. Cruise control is also fitted, along with front and rear parking sensors, with both audible output and optical display.

In total, the Passat Executive comes with over £1,700-worth of equipment versus the Highline model that it replaces, for a premium of just £200, meaning on the road prices start from £20,235.

The Executive Style builds on the Executive, but as the name sug-

gests, it comes with a more distinctive look. Hunkered down on 15 mm lower sports suspension, the Executive Style comes with 18-inch 'Kansas' alloy wheels, bi-xenon headlights, front fog lights, and tinted rear glass together worth more than £2,000 for just £995 over the Executive.

The Executive and Executive Style trims are available to order from 2 January 2014, when they replace the Highline, Sport and R-Line trims in the line-up.



▲ The Passat Executive Style

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Met Grey with Matching
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60 Plate Nissan Qashqai 1.5 DCi (110)
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Owner, History 19,800
miles
£11,690



60 Plate Nissan Note Tekna
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Matching Leather Trim,
1 Owner, History
25,600 miles
£6,899



59 Honda Accord 2.2i D-Tec ES
Ex test Model, Full Spec,
Silver, Black Leather, 1
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05 Plate Mitsubishi Shogun 3.2
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Enjoy an Eventful New Year with Lanehouse Vauxhall

LOCAL Vauxhall dealer, Lanehouse Vauxhall, is giving motorists in Dorset a festive gift by hosting The Vauxhall New Year Event.

Between 27th December 2013 and 13th January 2014, the retailer with sites in Bridport and Weymouth, will be offering customers £500 of free fuel when they purchase a brand new Vauxhall car or van*.

The free fuel offer is in addition to Vauxhall's existing range of great offers and applies to a wide range of vehicles in the Vauxhall line-up, including the capable Mokka SUV, the popular Corsa and the stylish Astra.

In addition, the dealership is offering a 20 per cent discount on Genuine Vauxhall Accessories with all new cars and vans purchased during the event period, the cost of which can easily be built into Vauxhall's Flexible Finance or Flexible PCP deals.

Dominic Avery, Company Director at Lanehouse Vauxhall, comments: "The Vauxhall New Year Event offers motorists in the area an ideal opportunity to drive away in a new

Vauxhall car or van of their choice, whilst helping to cut the costs associated with driving over the festive season.

"We'd like to get 2014 off to a great start by inviting those looking for a new car or van to stop by our dealership during the event. Our dedicated team will be on hand to help customers explore the fantastic offers available and discover their ideal Vauxhall."

Finance made flexible

There are plenty of reasons to head to Lanehouse Vauxhall and enjoy great offers on Vauxhall cars at any time throughout the New Year, thanks to Vauxhall's highly competitive zero per cent APR Flexible Finance scheme.

With no minimum customer deposit required and payment terms that can vary between 24 to 60 months, customers can drive away with complete choice and flexibility.

This means that customers could, for example, purchase a Corsa Limited Edition 1.2 3-door for just £189 a month for 60 months, including a Vauxhall deposit contribution of £750 and a customer deposit of £2,560, plus £500 of free fuel during the event.

What's more, to give motorists added peace of mind, all new Vauxhall cars come with a warranty that could last a lifetime, so customers at Lanehouse Vauxhall can be confident that they are getting the best possible aftercare and service too.

Available to the first owner of all new Vauxhall cars, the warranty is valid for the lifetime of the vehicle up to a maximum of 100,000 miles.

Van-tastic savings

In addition to offering £500 of free fuel during The New Year Event, Lanehouse Vauxhall is also keen to keep local businesses moving in 2014 with Vauxhall's great-value '4x4x4x4' commercial vehicle offer.

From the award-winning New Combo to the well-equipped, functional and practical Vauxhall Corsavan, hugely capable Movano and British-built Vivaro, customers can enjoy a great deal of choice when selecting their perfect van.

Those who purchase any new Vauxhall commercial vehicle can take advantage of four years' 0% APR Representative finance and four years' free servicing, including routine service parts and labour. Plus, customers get the reassurance of four years' breakdown assistance and four years' warranty, making a Vauxhall commercial vehicle a great-value, reliable choice.

To take advantage of Vauxhall's 4x4x4x4 offer, van cus-

tomers simply choose the model that suits their business needs, pay a minimum 20 per cent deposit of VAT excluding price (plus VAT on the total transaction price), and make regular repayments for the agreed term at zero per cent APR Representative for four years.

To find out more about The Vauxhall New Year Event and the offers available or to locate your nearest site, please go online to www.lanehousegroup.co.uk.

To discover more about Vauxhall's lifetime warranty, please visit www.vauxhall.co.uk/warranty

*Available on selected models. £500 free fuel will be via pre-paid debit card. The offer is only available on orders placed during the event period of 27.12.13 to 13.01.14

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06 06 Fiat Sedici 1.9 Diesel Eleganza 4x4, Stone, (Same as Suzuki SX4).....£5,495
08 08 Renault Grand Modus Auto, Stone, Power mirrors.....£4,945
07 07 Renault Modus Dynamique TCE, Misty Blue, Very low miles.....£4,245
07 07 Renault Megane 1.6 Dynamique Sport Tourer, Silver.....£4,295
05 05 Vauxhall Astra Club Estate, Silver, Only 25000 miles.....£4,295
04 04 Vauxhall Zafira 1.8 Life Auto, Moss Green, 7 seats.....£2,995
04 04 Audi A4 Avant TDI Auto Sport, Silver.....£4,695
04 04 Renault Scenic 1.9DCI, 6 speed, Silver.....£2,495

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06 06 Mitsubishi Shogun Sport 2.5TD Trojan, Black, Leather trim.....£6,795
06 06 Fiat Sedici 1.9 Diesel Eleganza 4x4, Stone, (Same as Suzuki SX4).....£5,495
05 05 Toyota Rav4 XT3 5Dr, Graphite, ESR.....£5,495
05 05 Hyundai Tucson CDX Diesel, Blue Mica, Leather trim, ESR.....£3,995
09 09 Hyundai Santa Fe CDX 2.2CDTI, Automatic Black, Grey Heated Leather Seats, 7 seats, Sat Nav, DVD Players in Headrests, Rare Diesel 4x4.....£12,995

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04 04 Renault Clio Privilege 1.6 16v, Manual, Silver.....£2,995
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98 05 BMW Z3 Auto Roadster, Cosmos Black, Leather trim, Hardtop.....£2,995
01 01 Megane Monaco Coupe, Blue, Leather trim.....£2,295
98 08 Rover 820 Sterling Coupe, Oyster Gold, A future Classic.....£1,995

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Government backs Smartphone App to pinpoint potholes

DfT pledges cash to enable CTC, the National Cycling Charity to revamp it's 'Fill that hole' website and develop a new potholes app. The government has given £30,000 to back the development of an innovative smartphone application to report potholes, Roads Minister Robert Goodwill announced today (24 December 2013).

The Department for Transport (DfT) pledged the cash to enable CTC, the National Cycling Charity, to revamp its Fill that hole website and develop a new app compatible with smartphones running Android software.

Over 9 million iPhone users can download the website's current app to report potholed roads to their councils; the new app could boost that figure to over 26 million and is expected to be ready in February, at the start of 'pothole season' when the winter damage to roads is at its greatest. Roads Minister Robert Goodwill said:

"The government is serious about tackling potholes. At best they are an irritation but at worst they can damage vehicles and pose a serious danger to cyclists. That is why we want people to tell councils where to find them so they can fill them in. This app means more people are going to be able to report potholes more easily.

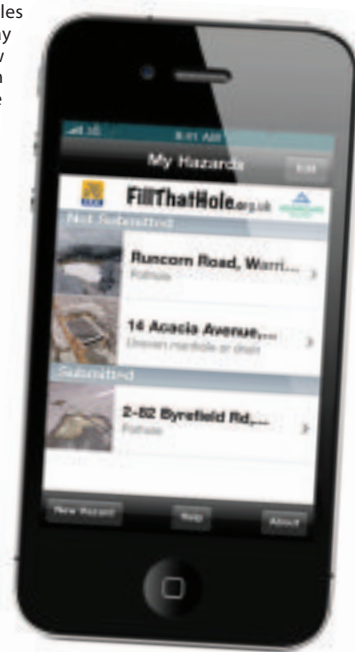
"Filling potholes in quickly is only one half of the story. Research has also shown a long-term approach to road maintenance,

rather than patch and mend, can save councils and taxpayers money and potentially save lives thanks to better road conditions." CTC originally developed its app for cyclists, who can receive life-changing injuries from accidents caused by potholes, but it is now used by all types of road user, from delivery drivers to motorists concerned about potential damage to their vehicle.

The app sends local authorities up-to-the-minute information about potholes which the council may not otherwise know about, allowing them to identify trouble spots needing action fast. In the past year around £23.8 million was paid in compensation by local authorities across England due to the poor condition of their roads according to the Asphalt Industry Alliance.

The support for the app comes as more local authorities adopt new government guidelines which urge councils to plan extensive maintenance well in advance, rather than years of costly 'patching' as potholes appear - saving the taxpayer money.

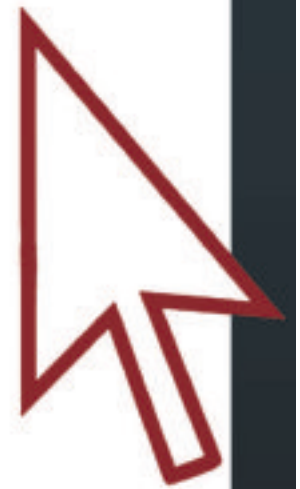
The government has provided over £3 billion to authorities in England (excluding London) between 2011/2012 to 2015/2016, plus an additional £200 million in 2011 following the severe winter. In June, the department announced a further £5.8 billion for local highways maintenance from 2015/2016 to 2020/2021. This equates to around £976 million per year, a funding increase of £163 million a year.



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